

The enactment of 10 U.S.C. 1174(h) eliminated the percentage recoupment and established total recoupment of separation pay. The effect is to require the veteran who has paid income tax on the total separation pay to, in effect, pay that tax again, out of his disability compensation.

H.R. 3183 would correct this inequity by limiting future recoupment of separation pay to no more than 75 percent of the benefit received.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

RETIREMENT OF JAMES E. SULLIVAN

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Mr. James E. Sullivan of Springfield, MA, on his retirement from the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority after more than 20 years of diligent service. Mr. Sullivan, or Jimmy, is a lifelong resident of Springfield and hails from a family with a strong tradition in public service. The youngest of five brothers, James answered the call to public service shortly after his graduation from Cathedral High School in 1949 when he joined the 104th Air National Guard. Jimmy served the Guard dutifully for 9 years, handling supplies and public relations for the 104th. Following his honorable discharge, James began a distinguished working career in a wide variety of occupations including finance, sales, media, and ultimately transportation. It was in this final area that James excelled, working his way up the ladder of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority from a toll taker to an assistant superintendent, a position he held for the past 17 years.

In addition to his outstanding work for the MTA, Jimmy was extremely active in a host of community activities. He served as president of the Sacred Heart Holy Name Society and is currently a lecturer and a eucharistic minister at Our Lady of Hope Parish in Springfield. He was also a member of several organizations that have made tremendous contributions to the Springfield community. Among these organizations are the Knights of Columbus, the Archbishop Williams Council, and the Springfield Elks Lodge. James also served as the chairman of the Ward 2 Democratic Committee in Springfield. It was also from this position that he offered tremendous support for the many area politicians who hailed from ward 2, including myself.

In addition to these other activities, Jimmy has been tremendously active in Irish affairs both at home and abroad. As a member of the John Boyle O'Reilly Club and the host of an Irish radio program for 25 years, he is intensely proud of his Irish heritage. These two activities have provided him with an ideal vehicle to expose several generations of Irish-Americans, in the Springfield area, to the rich traditions of song and history that Ireland enjoys. He has also been a longtime advocate of the peace process and I know he has done much to promote this sentiment throughout our region.

I would like to congratulate Jimmy on a wonderful career and I wish him all the best

as he enjoys his retirement with his wife Peggy, his children Margaret, Sean, and Thomas, and his granddaughter Kaila. While this retirement is a tremendous loss for the MTA, I know that it will enable him to devote even more time to a family he cares for deeply.

I would also like to salute Jimmy Sullivan as a true public servant. His devotion to his family, his church, his job, his country, and his heritage have enabled him to enrich the lives of all who know him. As his Congressman, fellow Democrat, and personal friend, I join the citizens of the Second Congressional District in offering Jimmy our heartfelt congratulations. His life and service to his community are an inspiration to us all and I thank him for all that he has done.

GROWING SUPPORT FOR MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the last minimum wage adjustment made in 1989 has been completely eroded by inflation. However, we can learn from the experience of that last increase to help assuage the fears that another increase will be detrimental to employment opportunities.

According to analysis by Richard B. Freeman, the preeminent labor economist from Harvard University, studies done on the 1989 minimum wage increase show "that moderate increases in the minimum (wage) transferred income to the lower paid without any apparent adverse effect on employment. * * *

Translation: the 1989 minimum wage increase did not cost jobs; it did boost the incomes of affected workers.

Mr. Speaker, the 1989 increase was overwhelmingly supported on a bipartisan basis in both the House and the Senate before being signed into law by President Bush. It is time for this Congress to address the wage erosion for low-wage workers with a meaningful minimum wage increase. It is time that the people's House began addressing the real concerns of people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, on March 27, 1996, I was unavoidably detained and missed one rollcall vote. I would like the record to show that had I been present for rollcall vote No. 94, on H.R. 1833, the so-called partial-birth abortion ban, I would have voted "no."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN HERITAGE CLUBS OF NORWALK-LA MIRADA AND CARSON, CA

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special group of individuals who have generously supported the American Heritage Clubs of Norwalk-La Mirada and Carson, CA. It is through these contributions of time, energy, and unwavering dedication, that the young people of our community receive the educational opportunity they deserve. The kindness of the following individuals is greatly appreciated:

Roger Leue, for three decades of dedication to Carson's youth; Ted Kimura's support of the 1995 tour of our Nation's Capital; Dr. Caroline Hee for her continuous support and her special floral arrangement at the 1995 Luau; the leadership Elito Santarina displayed in organizing the Carson High American Heritage tour of Washington, DC; the financial support of Dr. Dhyen Lal for the 1994-95 trip; to our 1996 grand marshal, Jesse Sapolu and the fine example he sets for not only the youth of the Pacific Islands, but for all Americans; and the financial support provided by Mayor Don Dear greatly contributed to the success of the Washington, DC, tour for students of Stephen White Middle School.

In addition, we owe a debt of gratitude to Peggy Flores for her guidance and smiling face; Cheri Webster for her willingness to always rise to the challenges that the Washington tours present; Desiree Sullenger for her tireless work on numerous fundraisers; Jim and Bette Hannum, Bev Thies and Marianne Estes, your presence on the trips to Washington was immeasurable; Ernie and Jolinda Marquez and Joe and Mary Mendoza, concerned and caring parents are the foundation of the American Heritage Clubs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to these special individuals. Their commitment enables the youth of Norwalk-La Mirada and Carson to make these annual historic and educational trips to Washington, DC. The youth in our community will be forever grateful to each of these caring individuals for helping with this extremely valuable experience.

THE INDIANA REGIONAL MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IS VERY GOOD NEWS

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, thank God there is good news as well as bad.

The Indiana Regional Minority Supplier Development Council is very good news because it plays a positive and effective role in building up the backbone of American enterprise, small business.

For nearly 20 years the council has brought together large majority businesses with small minority business suppliers in the State of Indiana. And the result has been a very happy one both for the large and small corporations.